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CADRE TRAINING IN THE AFFILIATES OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES USSR

Academician I. P. Bardin,
President, Council of Affiliates,
Academy of Sciences USSR

Comment: This report summarizes an article praising the work
of scientists in the affiliates of the Academy of Sciences USSR,
but criticising their work in cadre training.

The affiliates of the Academy of Sciences USSR are carrying out much
research work assisting the development of industry and agriculture in the
areas in which they are located. They are, however, suffering from a short-
age of trained scientists, and this situation is partly a result of their own
poor efforts in training.

Of the 1,600 scientific associates working in the affiliates, 94 hold
Doctors of Sciences degrees and 630 hold Candidates of Sciences degrees. The
lack of scientists with higher degrees is shown by the fact that, out of the
94 Doctors of Sciences, 29 hold more than one position, and 60% of them are
concentrated in the Ural, Kazan', and West Siberian affiliates. The Sakhalin,
Far Eastern, Yakutsk, Komi, and Kola affiliates have practically no Doctors
of Sciences, which means that the majority of divisions and laboratories are
headed by Candidates of Sciences.

It has been found impossible to remedy this shortage by inviting scien-
tists to come from Moscow and Leningrad, and the Council of Affiliates and
the Cadre Administration of the Academy of Sciences USSR have been able to
direct to the affiliates only three to five doctors and about 20 candidates
per year. Thus the affiliates are thrown back upon their own resources.

It is apparent, however that the requisite figures are not being attained
by the affiliates. In the period 1946 to 1952, 809 aspirants were accepted,

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of whom 414 should have defended their dissertations. In actual fact, only 14 aspirants completed their course in the requisite time, 83 defended their dissertations soon after their course of study, 77 presented their dissertations but did not defend them. 78 had not done sufficient time on completion of their aspirantship, and 59 were rejected because of failure or other reasons. Thus only a quarter of those receiving aspirantships defended their dissertations, and the affiliates have only received an average total of 18 Candidates of Science per year.

* * *

The following scientists are mentioned in examples of specific shortcomings of work of the affiliates:

S.I. Gluzdakov, Candidate of Biological Sciences, was promoted acting director of the Biological Institute of the West Siberian Affiliate, "even though he can greatly damage the work of the institute unless he is constantly supervised by the Bureau of the Council of the Affiliates." It was stated that he headed a group which accused N.M. Savelyev, Senior Scientific Associate of the institute, of mistakes of a methodological nature in his experimental work, as a result of which Savelyev was suspended from his work. The suspension was later rescinded after the Council of the Affiliates had investigated the affair.

Z.V. Gogolev, acting director of the Institute of Languages, Literature and History, Yakutsk Affiliate; Yu.V. Averin, acting head of the Division of Zoology, Crimean Affiliate; and A.M. Kikin, acting head of the Division of Mechanization, West Siberian Affiliate, were all cited as having been retained in their positions too long with the rank of "acting."

N.A. Bel'skaya, Candidate of Agricultural Sciences, is stated to have been a Senior Scientific Associate of the Division of Forestry of the Karelo-Finnish Affiliate, and to have produced no scientific work in that time.

N.Ye. Del'mtov, Doctor of Agricultural Sciences and Senior Scientific Associate in the Karelo-Finnish Affiliate, was stated to have done only 23 days field work and 17 days departmental work in all of 1952.

Ya.M. Samoylov, Candidate of Technical Sciences, was criticized for the fact that in all his years as head of the Division of Power Engineering, Sakhalin Affiliate, no work of scientific or practical value has been published by the division.

V. A. Rybin, Doctor of Biological Sciences, is reported to have made some mistakes in his work on citrus cultivation. Instead of pointing out his errors, the Presidium of the Crimean Affiliate labeled him an anti-Michurinist and released him from work, thus depriving the country of his services. On investigation by the Council of Affiliates, he was reinstated.⁷

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